

App. No. 10/618,746
Amdt. dated October 4, 2005
Response to July 11, 2005 Office Action

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior listings in this application.

LISTING

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) A pellet of chromatography media of agarose, dextran or acrylamide/azlactone copolymer ~~characterized by~~ comprising a coherent aggregate of distinct beads having a capacity to resist a force, as demonstrated by a Schleuinger Pharmatron hardness of at least about 2 Kilo Ponds, and capable of being rapidly hydrated on addition of water to form a gel where said media has been derivatized with a ligand.
3. (Previously Presented) The pellet of Claim 2 where said ligand is selected from the group consisting of Protein L, Protein A, Protein G, streptavidin, and glutathione.
4. (Currently Amended) The pellet of Claim 3 where said media is chelated ~~with metal~~.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of using a pelletized chromatography media of agarose, dextran or acrylamide/azlactone copolymer characterized by a coherent aggregate of distinct beads having a capacity to resist a force, as demonstrated by a Schleuinger Pharmatron hardness of at least about 2 Kilo Ponds, including the step of rapidly hydrating the media to form a gel.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 5 where the media is hydrated with a fluid selected from the group consisting of water and an aqueous buffer selected based on the desired chromatographic application.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 where the fluid for hydration is water.
8. (Original) The method of claim 6 where hydration of the media is complete within 120 seconds.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of hydrating a pellet consisting essentially of an aggregate of distinct beads of a chromatography media composed of crosslinked agarose, dextran or acrylamide/azlactone where the pellet is coherent and capable of resisting force, as demonstrated by a Schleuinger Pharmatron hardness of at least about 2 Kilo Ponds, including the step of adding water to the pellet which hydrates within 120 seconds to form a gel wherein said beads are swollen and substantially uniformly dispersed.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of chelating the media ~~with a metal~~.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 where the media is cross-linked agarose ~~and the chelating metal is~~ chelated with nickel.
12. (Currently Amended) The pellet of claim 4 where the media is cross-linked agarose ~~and the chelating metal is~~ chelated with nickel.